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Aerospace Manufacturing in Tijuana is Booming, According to the Tijuana Economic Development Corporation

Aerospace Manufacturing in Tijuana is Booming, According to the Tijuana Economic Development Corporation ^[1]

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Tue, 2011-07-05

A research paper on Baja California Aerospace Industry by the [Tijuana Economic Development Corporation](#) ^[2] called "For High altitude Profits, Aerospace Companies Land in Tijuana" revealed that the [state of Baja California and the city of Tijuana are leaders in manufacturing and engineering for the aerospace industry](#) ^[3]. The study shows the industrial capabilities that are available in these regions. Baja California, for example, has over 40 years of aerospace manufacturing experience, AS9100 and [NADCAP](#) ^[4] certified companies and a positive business labor environment.

With 52 companies and 12,500 employees, 50 percent of Mexico's total employment in aerospace manufacturing in Tijuana, Baja California has had a labor growth rate of 6 percent annually between 2006 and 2001. Tijuana gives young educated individuals the opportunity to attend one of three universities that offer aerospace-related programs.

Manufacturing in Tijuana is also a very positive labor environment, free of union disputes and marked by cooperation between local government, companies, and workers. There are many supply chain opportunities as well in Baja California. The 2nd annual [Baja California Aerospace Supplier Forum](#) ^[5] was put together in order to support the growth of industry on a local level for suppliers, government authorities, and private sector organizations. In addition, the Tijuana Economic Development Corporation has planned an Industrial Tour of Zodiac and Eaton facilities to take place before the Aerospace forum, on July 20, 2011.

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San Cristobal de las Casas

San Cristobal de las Casas ^[1]

Wed, 2011-07-27

San Cristobal de las Casas is a scenic, well-restored colonial town in the mountains of Chiapas. Hippies from the US, Argentina, and all points in between line the streets selling jewelry and exchanging greetings with traditionally dressed Mayan women selling fruit and their own handicrafts. Its center can be seen in half a day by taking slow walks down unhurried cobblestone streets, up staircases to hilltop churches, and into its massive market, where you will reenter the "real" Chiapas, a Chiapas slightly obscured by the polish of mass tourism and foreign owned businesses. The city was called "The most magical of the Pueblos Magicos" (magic towns, of which there are 40 in Mexico) by President Felipe Calderon in 2010. It offers any traveler, from backpacker to first-class-flier, an abundance of culture, nature, food, nearby places to visit, and friendly, diverse people. Two pedestrian streets intersect at the Zocalo (center square): Real de Guadalupe and Andador Eclesiastico, both of which have options for many tastes – international and Mexican restaurants, coffee shops, bars, travel agencies, and souvenir shops. By far my favorite club is el Zirko, a salsa bar on the north half of Andador Eclesiastico. The band is excellent and played late, starting around 11 and playing until 3 or 4, with breaks of course. They play every night, at least every time I stopped in. On Fridays and Saturdays there is a spacious backroom with club music. It was cheap – one night my bar bill was only about 150 pesos, and I had been there for hours. I spent a few nights playing guitar in front of the cathedral. Interesting folk from various countries gathered there after dark to play music, juggle fire, sell jewelry, and drink fairly obviously until the police came and politely told us to leave around 1 AM. Then we went from square to square as they followed us around, kicking us out with only slightly waning politeness each time, until we finally stumbled off to our respective hostels and cheap hotels. There are several markets in San Cris, including a big outdoor handicrafts market where you can buy purses, clothing, blankets, and amber jewelry. Farther from the Zocalo is the big, real Mexican market, and you will see things all things Chiapan, including larger-than-life guayabas, hard to find pitallas, and crazy multicolored beans. I bought a bag of pink, purple, and yellow beans with the intention of cooking them, but then when I went to a little mole restaurant the laughing staff told me that they were painted and for making jewelry. Then a waitress insisted on bringing me over to another bean seller to show me what real beans looked like. My favorite non-Mexican restaurant was Mayambe, an Indian place. It was located a little west of Andador Eclesiastico on Avenida 5 de Mayo. I had some great, authentic curry and a nice chat with the American owner. Most meals were around 70 pesos. TRANSPORT There are very cheap buses from Mexico City to San Cristobal for around 300 pesos. Their offices are located near the Candelario station in D.F. – just ask in the market outside the metro. The company I used was Viajes Aury, and it stopped in Tuxtla and Puebla too. San Cristobal is less than an hour away from Tuxtla Gutierrez,

about 1 and a half hours from Comitán (from where you can visit some beautiful natural areas like Lagunas de Montebello, among others), and about 4 hours from Palenque. All the buses and combis (passenger vans) are in the same area, a 10 minute walk from the Zocalo. Prices vary greatly between the first class buses, like OCC, and smaller companies and combis. For example, the OCC bus to Palenque is 150 pesos, while other buses go for 80. Or you can take a combi to Ocosingo and transfer there. I believe it is about 40 pesos. SAN JUAN CHAMULA A Mayan village in the mountains, San Juan Chamula is one of the more interesting places to visit near San Cristobal. At first pass it looks like any other Mexican town - the same fruit for sale on the street, the same pharmacies and snack shops, and beautiful pine forested hill all around. Then upon entering the Zocalo you see the difference: a bustling market day filled with Mayans: women in their superbly colorful dresses and men with hairy black jackets. Entering the church is entering another world, and for only 20 pesos! There are no pews, rather both sides are lined with statues of saints in glass cases with their facial expressions of supplication. All over the pine-needle covered floor are people kneeling and praying, with incense and charcoal burning in big urns and candles in rows all around. Most candles are white, which is a petition for peace, but other colors have other meanings: yellow has financial connotations, black is to prevent death in the family, green is to have good crops, and red is for love. People bring in sodas to place before them as they pray. A few were even drinking beer! They do this because carbonated beverages produce gas, the expulsion of which represents the expulsion of bad energy from the body. Whatever the reason, people drinking beer in church surrounded by candles and incense smoke is a sight to see. Two women kneeling on the floor have chickens wrapped in shawls. One rubs a chicken on her friend's shoulders and then holds it out over the candles while chanting in a near-whisper. Not much Spanish is being spoken, and most people are either in reverent silence or loudly praying, with a few even weeping. This is a fascinating, funky location - a glimpse into a bizarre yet beautiful mix between radically different cultures, the assimilation of the oppressor culture into the ancient. Mayan villages are sprinkled throughout Chiapas. Many function separately from the government, a legacy of both tradition and the Zapatistas. For example, non-Mayans and non-Catholics aren't allowed to live in San Juan Chamula. There are other nearby villages which I was warned against visiting, but without a doubt San Juan Chamula and San Cristobal are quite safe and two of the most worthwhile places to visit in all of Mexico.

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For Immediate Release

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**The Launch of MexicoToday.org Website Highlights Mexican Public-Private Effort
To Keep International Audiences Informed About News in Mexico**

Website is Part of MexicoToday's Ecosystem of Online Platforms; Official Twitter Hashtag #mexicotoday

MEXICO CITY, July 27, 2011 — Marca País — Imagen de México, an initiative to help promote a positive image of Mexico abroad, announced today the launch of a website called MexicoToday.org. The website consists of a leading-edge portal including the latest Mexican economy, tourism, culture, environment, and Mexico & The World news targeted to international audiences.

The MexicoToday.org website is part of an online communications platform which looks to engage international audiences through its different social media channels, including Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, and Flickr. To be part of the online conversation in Twitter, #mexicotoday is the official hash tag for MexicoToday. In the next months, additional social media channels will be activated.

"We are very excited to make available the MexicoToday.org website and its related online properties to all our international friends that seek to explore the magical sites and opportunities Mexico brings to tourists, businesses, and investors," explained Jaime Díaz, director for Marca País — Imagen de México. "Through our MexicoToday.org portal, we invite you to learn about and enjoy Mexico, and to really experience the rich culture, traditions, and unique investing opportunities that the country offers."

The MexicoToday.org website is a user-friendly news portal with videos, photos, and easy-to-read stories that allow the online user to enjoy according to their own preferences and interests. All the content has been color-coded for ease of screening by topic of interest. The website also offers three different types of views, including classic, mosaic, and timeline. All of the stories in the website are fully-integrated with the MexicoToday YouTube, Facebook and Twitter accounts, and online users can interact with each of the stories by "liking" them and providing comments via their Facebook page or re-tweeting via their Twitter profile.

The MexicoToday.org website also allows online users to create their own user profiles for personalization, and the portal's intelligent design identifies related stories online users will be most interested to read about based on their most recent views and search activity.

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